

name Papyrus Gonolek for *mufumbiri* as it reflects the unusual ecology of this species.

Lanius nubicus

Imm, 9th November, Lake Kanyaboli, wt. 21.0g, wing 90mm, two innermost primaries in pin (innermost more advanced).

Mackworth-Praed and Grant (*op. cit.*) and White (1962) record this palearctic migrant south to Lake Rudolf. Archer and Godman (1961) describe its wintering range in more detail and the Lake Rudolf record is in fact "probably somewhere near Lake Rudolf", this and Lake Albert (Chapin 1954) being the only known localities south of 10° N.

The immature from Lake Kanyaboli must be considered a vagrant and it is interesting that it was present at a time of exceptional abundance of palearctic migrants of several species, including *Lanius senator niloticus* (Bonaparte).

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Buccal colours in some sunbirds

by R. K. Brooke

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I (Brooke 1970) drew attention to the variation with age, sex and reproductive condition of the buccal or palate colours of sunbirds with particular reference to *Nectarinia bifasciata* (Shaw). Two published references to this matter in African sunbirds were overlooked: Bates (1911) recorded that *N. batesi* (Ogilvie-Grant) and *N. minulla* (Reichenow) had nestlings with orange palates and Swynnerton (1916 with coloured plates) recorded the same colour for a nestling *N. venusta* (Shaw and Nodder) and black for an unsexed adult. Brooke (1970) records orange as the buccal colour of a nestling *N. cuprea* (Shaw) and that fledged juvenals of *N. bifasciata* and *N. sovimangvi* (Gmelin) have orange-yellow or rich yellow colours. I have collected a female *N. senegalensis* (L.) in post juvenal moult on 22nd March near Salisbury in Rhodesia with orange buccal colour. It would appear that orange is the

normal, if not invariable, colour in juvenal *Nectarinia* and that variation in buccal colour is a feature of the adults only.

Three adult male *N. senegalensis* had a brownish-grey, a dusky brown and a dusky red colour, and two apparently adult females had, the one yellow in front and pink behind, i.e. towards the throat, and the other dusky yellow. Mees (1970) took a male, presumably adult, with a black mouth at Inyanga in Rhodesia. He also records a female *Anthreptes collaris* (Vieillot) with an orange-yellow mouth.

Swynnerton (1916) considered that the bright buccal colours of nestlings intimidated predators and/or reminded them that the nestlings were not as palatable as they were easy to take. This is probable enough but seems inadequate when applied to adults with their varied colours, most contrasting with the frontal plumage and some like adult male *N. senegalensis* not contrasting with the dark head.

References:

- Bates, G. L. 1911. Further notes on the birds of southern Cameroon. *Ibis* 9 (XX): 581-631.
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Further records of *Caprimulgus europaeus plumipes* Przhevalski in south-eastern Africa

by H. D. Jackson

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Borrett and Jackson (1970) have shown that *Caprimulgus europaeus plumipes* winters in south-eastern Africa; they give particulars of four specimens from this area. A further two specimens have since been secured, one providing the first record of this subspecies in Mozambique, and the other extending the altitudinal limit of the known distribution in winter:—

1. No. 69374, imm. ♂ collected on 28th November, 1969, by M. P. Stuart Irwin near Chiniziua, Mozambique, at 19° 00' S., 35° 16' E., 100 metres a.s.l.

This specimen was taken in a forest/savanna mosaic on coastal alluvium. It was carrying a remarkable amount of fat, at least 9 g. being scraped off the body; total weight of the fresh specimen was 65.6 g. For this information I am obliged to Mr. Stuart Irwin, Keeper of Ornithology at the National Museum, Bulawayo, where the specimen is now lodged.

2. No. UM. 1166, ad. ♂ collected on 2nd April, 1970, by G. Spence at Umtali, Rhodesia, at 18° 58' S., 32° 40' E., 1100 metres a.s.l.

Mr. Spence found this bird lying with a broken wing on the grassed island along the centre of a dual carriageway tarmac road in the middle of the town; it had presumably been hit by a car the previous night. I am obliged to him for bringing the bird to me at the Umtali Museum, where the specimen is now lodged. It had no fat deposits and weighed 57.0 g. This record is further inland and at a higher altitude than any of the previous records.

Reference:

- Borrett, R. P. and Jackson, H. D. 1970. The winter quarters of *Caprimulgus europaeus plumipes* Przhevalski. *Bull. Br. Orn. Cl.* 90(1): 25-26.